

REMARKS

Applicants hereby offer preliminary amendments to the present application to place the application in better form for allowance.

Applicants have canceled Claims 1-14 in favor of replacement Claims 15-28 to correct certain informalities (including avoidance of multiple dependencies, avoidance of use claims, and removal of preferences or addition of new claims directed to such preferences) and to clarify the intended meaning of the claims without materially altering their scope. Applicants note with respect to the specification of isomers in Claims 15 and 25 that their specification teaches that, depending on the substituents, the compounds of formula (I) "may be present as geometrical and/or optical isomers, regio isomers and/or configurational isomers or isomer mixtures thereof of varying composition" and states that their claims are directed to both pure isomers and isomer mixtures. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the claims are fully supported in the specification.

Applicants have amended the specification to change the title to correspond to the English version of the title appearing on the International Application, to capitalize all letters in the title, and to insert a statement of priority. Applicants submit that these amendments serve only to clarify their application and do not alter the scope of their disclosure.

Applicants have amended the Abstract to change the title for the reasons discussed above and to change the heading and body to a more customary form. A copy of the new Abstract is separately attached.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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